

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method for installing software packages on a computer system, comprising:

installing a software package; and

5 initiating a de-install module when installing the software package, the de-install module allowing for automatically de-installing the software package.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein initiating a de-install module includes de-installing the software and all of its associated components automatically after a user-defined period of time has elapsed.

15 3. The method of claim 1, further comprising completely restoring an original configuration existing before the software installation with the de-install module.

20 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising tracking in real-time step by step activity of the software installation and interjecting to save and store original files as backup copies just before original files are modified or deleted by software installation.

25 5. The method of claim 2, further comprising providing the user with an emergency de-install option to override the user defined period of time so that de-installation can occur at any time at an emergency request by the user.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the computer is a client machine and further comprising downloading the software from a server via a network connection.

30 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising initiating the de-install module when the computer starts to make the de-install module active and hiding

existence of de-install module to the user.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising activating the de-install module so that it is apparent to the user when software initiates installation on the computer.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the de-install module is incorporated with existing software as part of an uninstall module of the software.

10 10. A software management system for managing software installations on a computer, comprising:

a de-install module that is initiated when the software is installed on the computer; and

15 all of its associated components automatically de-installed with the de-install module after a user defined period of time has elapsed.

20 11. The software management system of claim 10, wherein an original configuration existing before the software installation is completely restored with the de-install module.

25 12. The software management system of claim 11, wherein the de-install module collects and logs in memory all activity of the software installation and all changes made to the original configuration for completely restoring the original configuration.

13. The software management system of claim 10, wherein the de-install module is initiated when the computer starts to make the de-install module active and the existence of the de-install module is hidden from the user.

14. The software management system of claim 13, wherein the de-install module is activated when software initiates installation on the computer so that it is apparent to the user.

5 15. The software management system of claim 10, further comprising an emergency de-install option to override the user defined period of time so that de-installation can occur at any time at an emergency request by the user.

10 16. The software management system of claim 10, wherein the computer is a client machine and further comprising downloading the software from a server via a network connection.

15 17. The software management system of claim 16, wherein the network connection is the Internet.

18. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a process on a computer, the process comprising:  
initiating a de-install module when software is installed on a computer; and

20 providing a user with an option to have the software and all of its associated components automatically de-installed with the de-install module after a user defined period of time has elapsed.

25 19. The process of claim 18, further comprising completely restoring an original configuration existing before the software installation with the de-install module.

30 20. The process of claim 19, further comprising collecting and logging in memory all activity of the software installation and all changes made to the original configuration for completely restoring the original configuration.